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**Description of contents**

(1) Box no. 342

(2) Folder title/number: (5)  
Incidents

(3) Date: Oct. 1949 - Nov. 1949

(4) Subject:

Classification	Type of record
424	e, m, s

(5) Item description and comment:

(6) Reproduction:

Yes

No

(7) Film no.

Sheet no.

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Incidents

PRISON BRANCH  
PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION  
ROUTING SLIP

FROM:  
TO:

DATE 23 Nov 49

F  
T

- LEWIS \_\_\_\_\_
- REED \_\_\_\_\_
- WHITE \_\_\_\_\_
- CORNELIUS \_\_\_\_\_
- VAN BUSKIRK \_\_\_\_\_
- GRAVES \_\_\_\_\_
- EKSTROM \_\_\_\_\_
- BLENEY \_\_\_\_\_
- HANABURY \_\_\_\_\_

as an  
experienced  
maximum  
security  
operator

✓ Maxwell  
The attached to you  
for info. & report.

BFL

775009

PUBLIC SAFETY DIVISION  
ROUTING SLIP

FROM:	<i>WSP</i>	DATE:	<i>21 Nov 49</i>
<i>3</i>	Chief of Division		<i>[initials]</i>
<i>2</i>	Executive Officer		<i>[initials]</i>
<i>4</i>	Capt. Graves		<i>[initials]</i>
	Capt. Russell		
<i>1</i>	Administrative Officer		<i>[initials]</i>
<i>6</i>	Chief Clerk		
	Fire Branch		
	Liaison Branch		
	Maritime Branch		
	Police Branch		
<i>5</i>	Prison Branch		<i>1392</i>
	Stat & Anal Branch		

FOR:

Information  Comment \_\_\_\_\_  
 Action \_\_\_\_\_  
 Approval \_\_\_\_\_ File *2*

Remarks:

*Mr. Lewis: Looks like  
 good "hog-wash".  
 MED*

775009

DO NOT DETACH

FROM: CI Div

G-2, GHQ, FEC  
TO:

19 November 1949

209  
35263

- AC of S, G-2.....( )
- Ex O, FEC & Adm.....( )
- Ex O, SCAP.....( )
- Spec Asst Admin.....( )
- Spec Asst Theater Int.....( )
- Spec Asst CI DIV.....( )
- Spec Asst CCB.....( )
- Spec Asst 441st CIC.....( )
- Spec Asst Fiscal/Space/Trans.....( )
- Spec Asst Radio Reports.....( )
- Spec Asst JSOB.....( )
- Spec Asst MIS DIV.....( )
- Spec Asst Historical.....( )
- Spec Asst PSB.....( )
- Admin Officer.....( )
- G-2 Supply.....( )
- G-2 Personnel.....( )
- Theater Intell.....( )
- Operations.....( )
- PDM.....( )
- Plans and Estimates.....( )
- Foreign Liaison.....( )
- Targets Branch.....( )
- MIS DIV.....( )
- ATIS.....( )
- TID.....( )
- Historical Div.....( )
- Library.....( )
- CI DIV.....(3) (RM)
- Operations.....(2)
- Admin.....( )
- JSOB.....( )
- Coll & Pub.....( )
- 441st CIC.....( )
- Japanese Liaison.....(4)
- Public Safety Division.....( )
- Civil Censorship Br.....( )
- G-2 Document Research.....( )
- JPP.....(1)
- .....( )
- .....( )

- Info.....( )
- Approval.....( )
- Signature.....( )
- Draft Reply.....( )
- Brief.....( )
- File.....( )
- Action.....( )
- Comment.....( )
- Initials.....( )
- Info for Reply.....( )
- Dist Desired.....( )

Subject ATIS Translation of AKAHATA  
Articles on Japanese Prisons

REMARKS (Date All Comments)

DO NOT DETACH

16809

775009

# G-2, GHQ INTER - OFFICE MEMORANDUM

20935263  
2

CI Div/GDW:JPP/kk

(For use within G-2 only)

**File No:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Subject:** ATIS Translations of AKAHATA Articles on Japanese Prisons **Date:** 19 November 1949

**FROM:** CI Div

**TO:** PSD

**PHONE:** 26-5662

**NAME:** A. Bodian

**Comment  
Number**

Forwarded herewith for your information are ATIS translations of two articles, "Prison Life in Miyagi Jail" and "'Give Us Overtime Allowance', Request Leads to Dismissal; Fuchu Prison Guards Ill-treated", from AKAHATA editions of 16 and 25 October 1949, respectively.

1.

2 Incls:

1. Trans, as shown above, dtd 16 Oct 49
2. Trans, as shown above, dtd 25 Oct 49

R.S.B.

TRANSLATION

DOC. NO. 51629-C

AKAHATA No. 826

16 October 1949

### Prison Life in Miyagi Jail

With the progress of the hearings on the Taira Incident case, the Fascistic treatment accorded the 100 unlawfully detained defendants by the authorities has been continually brought to light, giving rise to public censure.

SUZUKI Yohei (24) of the Taira Local of the All Japan Communications Workers Union, allowed bail on the night of 11 October, after three months detention in Miyagi Prison, has revealed his experience in prison as follows:

"Twenty are still detained. All of them are placed in solitary cells, so arranged that each person is placed between cells of condemned convicts, of whom there are 24 or 25. Exercise and baths were taken all together. The meals provided were 80 percent barley and 20 percent rice mingled with bits of straw and were hardly edible; weeds and worms were frequently found floating in the soup. We were forced to use our wash basin for dish-washing and even for mopping. We were unable to talk to our comrades even on matters unrelated to the case, and if we should ever make demands for better treatment, we had to risk creation of disturbances among the convicts in the neighboring cells, which made us fear that severe disciplinary action might be taken against us as a consequence. Therefore, we were constantly obsessed by such feelings, and it seemed as if the authorities were always eager to get us into trouble under such pretexts.

"I was in bed for five days with a fever of over 99 degrees (38° C). During the whole period only once was I provided with medical care, and the small window in my cell was boarded from the outside, entirely barring the sole source of light. 'AOBA SHIMBUN', published by the authorities and circulated every 10 days, was distorted with false anti-Soviet, anti-Communist propaganda and the books with which we were provided were those of the militaristic period. In MIYAGI GAKUIN, a nearby reformatory, the boys were forced to sing "KIMIGAYO" exclusively. In such manner were the authorities attempting to gain converts and lead the inmates to fascism.

"Our comrades including three were handcuffed in going there."

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"Our comrades, including three women, were handcuffed in pairs whenever there was a trial and transported to FUKUSHIMA by truck. There is no telling how such treatment has affected us physically. Nevertheless, we kept carrying on our struggle cheerfully, increasing our strength each time the authorities renewed their pressure upon us."

TRANSLATION

DOC. NO. 51942-C

AKAHATA (Full Translation)

25 October 1949

"Give Us Overtime Allowance", request Leads to Dismissal; Fuchu Prison  
Guards Ill-treated

AKAHATA 25 Oct 49 -- On the 19th, KUZURU Takahashi (26) and AKIRA Kawai (22), guards at Fuchu Prison, Tokyo, asked SUZUKI, governor of the prison, for overtime allowance, and were dismissed on the spot. The guards at this prison, numbering nearly 300, are forced to work overtime. Those on day duty do 36 hours a month, and even those on night duty do one full day on alternate days, amounting to 22 hours. They do eight hours' clerical work and at times are made to work up to a maximum of 100 hours. Leave is granted only every other Sunday, and on alternate national holidays. Allowances were cut by no less than 30 percent in July, and 1,500 yen is the maximum paid for even 100 hours' overtime.

Mr. TAKAHASHI and Mr. KAWAI, no longer able to bear these conditions, ventured an inquiry. The governor of the prison cold-shouldered them insisting that the budget could not stand it. Mr. TAKAHASHI asked a reasonable question: "How about keeping overtime work within the limits of the budget?" The threatening reply was: "You are a red. Send in your resignation, since you are not fit to be a guard. If it is not sent in, I will turn you out of the official quarters immediately", and he dismissed both of them.

The majority of the guards have families, but as the family allowance is only 600 yen for a wife and eldest son and 400 yen for the others, many of the men who have wives cannot obtain houses in Tokyo. They live in the official quarters and lead double lives, leaving their families at home. These circumstances caused a break in a young guard's marriage engagement, which had been arranged at some pain. Infrequently they try to avail themselves of the leave stipulated in the Labor Standards Law to go home and see their children, but are told: "If you want to go home, resign and go home at your leisure." 800 yen a month, which is the price of board at the official residence, is undoubtedly cheap, but substitute food is supplied for breakfast and lunch, e.g., wheat vermicelli, bread, "suito" (a porridge of rice and vegetables), and sweet potatoes. Boiled rice is supplied in the evening only. The guards say, "Even the convicted eat mackerel, pike and whale meat, while they are unknown to us", and they envy these people. Meals at the official

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Guards on day duty work from six in the morning to six in the evening. They have to do their washing at night, as that is the only time they are in their quarters. They have to stop and touch their caps to the governor of the prison, SUZUKI and other leaders in the prison. It is said that the governor and other senior officials in the prison had the convicts convert into clothing, a large number of parachutes which were in the warehouse when the war ended, and diverted a considerable quantity of it into illegal channels.